



Trinity United Methodist Church
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The Mission of Trinity United Methodist Church is to proclaim God's love by building community and living by the example and teachings of Jesus Christ.

Trinotes



The Via Dolorosa

*But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment
that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are
healed. — Isaiah 53:5*

It's that time of year. I pull it up on YouTube and put it on repeat until I've heard the words so many times they, again, are engrained in my heart. I have a strong affection for blind contemporary Christian artist, Ginny Owens and Andrew Greer's version of the Via Dolorosa. The song is a gentle and simultaneously powerful telling of the story of Jesus' journey from Jerusalem to Golgotha. You probably know the song. At Trinity it's "Jeri's song." We hear it every year and every year it turns our attention to the physical realities of the crucifixion. I listen intently as chills run up my arms recounting the "Way of Suffering" that is the Via Dolorosa.

And I get stuck. I get stuck on the journey, nearly gasping as I catch my breath, remembering, as though I really had forgotten, Jesus' humanity. Fully divine. Fully human as well. I wonder. I honestly wonder why we forget it. We forget that he could feel as we feel — that physical, and emotional, and spiritual pain caused a visceral level of suffering for Jesus as it does for us. He ate food so he must've known what hunger felt like. He attempted to find a quiet place to rest, so he must've known what it felt like to be weary and worn. Yes, he was God, but that has never meant that he was exempt, nor is he now, from understanding what it means to suffer, and didn't he have to understand suffering? Didn't we need him to understand in full the consequences of humanity's sin?

Yes, I remember and I immediately regret it. There is a wave of guilt that washes over me when I begin to recount the thorns piercing his brow — how that must've hurt. My stomach turns as I imagine what it felt like — what it physically felt like — for his wrists to be pierced so deeply that his arms were pinned to

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Our country and the world - for the family and friends of those killed or injured in school or workplace shootings; for people of faith around the world who are experiencing persecution; for refugees seeking asylum from war and social unrest; for safe drinking water for those living in developing countries; prayers for our country, that truth and justice will prevail; for people around the world experiencing terrorist attacks; safety for children going to and from school and while at school; for the poor, homeless, and disenfranchised in our city; for the Dreamers, who seek to remain in the United States legally.

The United Methodist Church - for our Pastor, Rev. Sara Corum, her husband Josh McClurkan, and their five children; for our Bishop, the Rev. Bill McAlilly; and for our District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Deborah Smith.

Trinity UMC - For homebound members in the congregation. For children and youth ministries. For new visitors to this congregation. For all families who are grieving. For our congregation as we face transitions. Wisdom for our Trustees and Church Council.

Also, specific prayer requests by and for:

Mary McConnell's niece **Laura Fellin**, cancer—pray for her family.

Phil Phillips, undergoing transfusions; low blood count and very weak

Maggi Comes' niece, **Katie Pendleton**, diagnosed with Tumefactive MS

Dorothy Sue Smith, on the loss of her sister, **Annabelle Chumney**

Kanyan Glover, **Chris Glover's** great-nephew, waiting on heart transplant at Le Bonheur. Chris's brother **Donnie Glover**, chemo for leukemia

Marico Mason, needs lung transplant; trying to get back on transplant list

Bryce Sellers, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Doris Webster, recovering at home & receiving in-home nursing care

Dick Faulk, **Charlotte Comes'** cousin, moving to nursing facility from rehab

Family and friends of **Donald Taylor**, who died March 9th of a stroke

Family and friends of **Chuck Comes**, who died of cancer March 26th

Allen Helms, **Sue Taylor's** brother-in-law, to have abdominal surgery

Dick Faulk, **Charlotte Comes'** cousin, now in Hearthside assisted living

Bryce Sellers, fighting Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

Paige Warmath, **Alyson Foreman's** cousin, brain tumor removed, further treatment required; Paige's husband, **Brad**, recovering from serious illness

(Please contact the church office with any changes or additions to prayer list, or if a concern needs to be deleted.)

Upcoming

EVENTS

Youth Group Mid-Week Meeting

The youth will gather at Global Café on Wednesday, April 17th, between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. On April 24th, they will have dinner together in the Youth Room at TUMC at 6:00 p.m.

UMW Meetings

The UMW Unit Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16th at 10:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. The Evening Circle will meet at 6:30 p.m. on April 22nd, same location.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny & Easter Egg Hunt—

Saturday, April 13th, 9:30 am—Noon at the Worship Center

Manna on Monday

Servers needed on April 18th at Highland Heights UMC between 11:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Clean-up workers needed from 12:30—1:30 p.m.

Holy Communion

A Service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.

Binghampton Food Pantry

Tuesdays & Fridays at 258 Merton, 8:00-11:00 a.m., fresh produce is distributed.

Covenant Discipleship

The Wednesday evening Covenant Discipleship group continues to gather at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Guatemalan Consulate—Save the Dates!

The Consulate will be on site at TUMC on May 18-19 and September 21-22. (See article page 8 about other important upcoming events.)

Trinotes

The deadline for submissions for the next *Trinotes* is April 22nd. Please email or deliver any articles to Debby Marston at office@trinityumcmemphis.org. *Trinotes* is now available as an electronic file. Make a note on your Sunday attendance sheet or call Debby at 901-274-6895 if you prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail. Access it on our website at: www.trinityumcmemphis.org.

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the cross. I pause and imagine the pain that must've raced up his legs when the stake was driven through his feet and finally, if he could still feel it through the physical shock of the rest of it all, what it felt like to have the spear pierce his side and what was left of his life leave his broken body. Yes, a wave of guilt washes over me.

It's easy to read through the story of Good Friday because we're so disconnected from ancient Israel that the cost of Jesus' death feels like it's someone else's responsibility. We weren't there. We didn't condemn him. We didn't throw a cross on his back and push him down the Via Dolorosa. We didn't abandon him and denounce ever knowing him. It wasn't us. This wasn't our fault.

And then the story changes. When Easter comes we rejoice and sing God's praises for the redemption of **our sin**. The Way of Suffering wasn't because of anything we did but the grace and mercy of God — that's for us! But wait. Slow down. We don't get to claim a stake in part of the story and not all of it.

Lent isn't about Easter. Easter season is a whole other season of its own. We're not rushing to the empty tomb. We are on the road — on the Via Dolorosa — and we're there for a reason. Lent is about understanding the consequences of our sin. It's about walking alongside a man with a crown of thorns on his head, because of where we might have missed, or may be still missing, the mark. Lent is not a guilt trip, but we may find ourselves asking why we feel guilt if we do.

Slow down. Don't rush through Holy Week. If you are able to understand your own sin and suffering, perhaps, like Jesus, you'll be able to better understand the sin and suffering of others, and the compassion and grace we receive on Easter — maybe you'll be able to offer that to others. No matter what, if you walk this road alongside Jesus, you'll find a joy unimaginable when Easter does come.

Many Blessings,
Rev. Sara

Community Connections Discernment Continues

The Spirit was moving in the Worship Center at TUMC as we considered this question: What's Possible Now? Twenty-five Trinity folks and neighborhood representatives met on Saturday, April 6, under the leadership of Amy Moritz. We brainstormed outward-facing ministries now taking place in and around our church, thinking about where they fall in the "Give a Fish" continuum: Do they give a fish, teach participants to fish, or go further, to improve the health of the pond, or increase ownership and access to the pond? Later we broke into table groups to map how our present ministries involve connections with neighborhood groups and people, and to consider how we might strengthen those connections. (Those are the maps you saw taped to the back wall of the Worship Center when you came to worship on Sunday, April 6.)

We were happy to have representatives of some of our neighborhood partners with us: Pathway to Dignity, Overton Park Conservancy, Binghampton UMM, and Scouts. If you listened carefully, you could hear some connections being made on the spot! These connections will help us increase our bonds with the community around our church. We brainstormed ways to make "5% shifts" in some of our current ministries, so we can make moves toward more ministry "with" rather than just ministry "to" our neighbors. And we ended with the challenge to add to the hall bulletin board: "If others would join me, I would. . ."

If you haven't been able to come to one of our two Saturday sessions, you can become a part of the process by reading the bulletin board and adding your name (or your own idea) to a ministry that reaches your heart and matches your gifts. We are still in the discovery phase of our work. When our next event is announced, jump in! You will enjoy the time. Your input will enrich our work. And the refreshments are top notch!

Kay Jordan
Member of the Community Connections Steering Committee



Honorariums & Memorials

Memorials have been received:

*In memory of **Donald Taylor** from Caley & Alyson Foreman*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Melba & Charles Abraham*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Tom & Leanne Wilson*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Mary & Mac McConnell*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Rosemary & Mike Potter*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Elaine Amis*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Shirley Flint*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Caley & Alyson Foreman*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from Dorothy Sue Smith*

*In memory of **Chuck Comes** from
Marshall Doty and Patricia R. Jackson*



(Another "Save the Date")

The 2019 Memphis Annual Conference will be held at Collierville United Methodist Church on June 2—4. You can go to the Conference website for details: <https://www.memphis-umc.net/>.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HOLY WEEK 2019

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 18th
6:30 pm
The Worship Center

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, April 19th
11:00 -12:00
BUMM: 258 N. Merton



GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 19th
12:30 - 1:30
BUMM: 258 N. Merton

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 21st
11:00 -12:00
The Worship Center



Lakeshore summer camps provide ways that our children and youth can experience life, love, and the God of Grace. If you are interested in providing this opportunity for your child(ren), please refer to the Lakeshore website (<http://www.lakeshorecamp.org>). You may contact Carol Miller at 901-647-1329 or the church office for more information. Partial scholarships may be available through the church. Also, please consider making a donation to the Lakeshore Summer Camp Fund. This fund helps to alleviate the financial burden for our families.



Countdown for Trinity's launch To Mars and Beyond has commenced. Each one of us has mission critical talents to contribute. Star Guides (group guides for grades K-1, 2-3, and 4-5), Station Leaders (craft leaders, science assistant for Barbara Vann, recreation assistant for Sue and Marc Taylor and Carey Miller, music leaders, floaters, assembly assistant, and more), and Mission Controllers to direct our Voyagers and assist Mission Commanders are needed. A supplies list will be published after Easter week. Contact Joan Smith (901.218.8978) or Alyson Foreman (901.734.2796) to volunteer as we Go Beyond with Faith!; Go Beyond with Boldness!; Go Beyond with Kindness!; Go Beyond with Thankfulness!; and Go Beyond with Hope!



April/May Calendar of Youth Activities

Sunday School—Youth Room
9:45-10:45 a.m. Sunday mornings

NOTE: No Sunday School for
Youth on April 14th (Fellowship
Breakfast) or April 21st (Easter
Sunday)

Schedule for Wednesdays (6:00 to 7:00 p.m.)

April 17th—Global Café

April 24th—Dinner at TUMC (Youth Room)

May 1st—Today & Always

May 8th—Elemento Neapolitan Pizza

May 15th—Area 51 Ice Cream

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

April 2 Richard Ashley
April 10 Rita Allmon
April 19 Mary Alice Taylor
April 20 Bob Binkley
April 24 Karen Willard
April 25 Rachel Adkins
April 27 Jeff Potter

*[If your name or that of a loved
one has been omitted from
this birthday list, please
contact the church office
at 901-274-6895.]*



BINGHAMPTON UMM
&

TRINITY UMC
ESTACIONES DEL
CAMINO A LA CRUZ
[STATIONS OF THE CROSS]
258 N. MERTON ST.
GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 19, 11 AM-2:30 PM
[SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS]



Sixth season of holy hospitality

By Lois M. Young

Our sixth winter season for Room in the Inn was a wonderful success. Over 20 sessions we provided a total of 262 beds, with an average of 13 guests per night. For each session we had an average of 38 volunteers, which included those involved in transportation, setup, clothes closet, meal preparation, serving our guests, dinner cleanup, fellowship, staying overnight, serving breakfast, morning cleanup and laundry. Room in the Inn-Memphis asked us to start keeping track of volunteer hours. For this season, our volunteers gave 2,013 hours, which is about 100 hours per session.

If you look at the meal provider list on the bulletin board by the church kitchen, you know we had a lot of help from neighbors, community groups, other churches, and families who came together to provide wonderful evening meals for our guests. We are very thankful for their time and efforts. We are also thankful for the Rhodes College Bonner Scholars who help us fill our overnight volunteer positions.

We have a core group of about 35 people who volunteer almost every week. Each of them plays a crucial role in making the program successful. I can't let the season end without thanking Rosemary Potter for her incredible time and devotion to this ministry. She is an assistant coordinator who willingly serves in any role that is needed including the all-important overnight volunteer position. At Carpenter's House and on the bus driving back to Trinity, I often get asked, "Is Ms. Rosemary there tonight? Is Ms. Rosemary staying overnight?" Our guests love her and know she cares about them.

Along with many volunteers and meal providers, we have many angels who pray for and donate to this ministry. Thank you! Please continue to pray for RITI and our guests. And yes, your donations are always needed. If you have any questions about Room in the Inn, email or call me (loislane.young@gmail.com, 870-559-2228).